

Jan'y 7.

MET HEAVY GALE.**Sch. John R. Bradley Arrives
with Frozen Herring.**

While almost summer weather prevailed ashore here yesterday, it was very different a few miles out to sea, for while people were walking Main street and perspiring, sch. John R. Bradley, on the last leg of her homeward journey, from Bay of Islands, N. F., was in the grasp of a heavy gale and her crew were busy pounding ice which rapidly formed on deck and rigging.

The Bradley, Capt. Dominick Arsenault, arrived this forenoon, from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a full cargo of frozen herring, part pan and part natural frost goods. The vessel was heavily iced up having struck cold, blowy weather coming along. She made port under jumbo, foresail and riding sail.

Capt. Arsenault reports leaving Bay of Islands, N. F., the last day of the old year and thus, considering the conditions, has made a good passage.

The worst weather of the whole trip was met off here yesterday when the craft struck zero temperature and a gale so heavy that it was necessary to heave the staunch craft to under a two reefed foresail for several hours.

The crew succeeded in saving the deckload of barrelled salt herring, and when the gale moderated, sail was made and she came along during the night without mishap.

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Squid Plenty on Western Bank.

Capt. John Swim of sch. Etta Mildred reports plenty of squid still on Western bank. The squid are medium sized and Capt. Swim thinks they are just the kind that will stay on the bank all winter.

Halibut Sale.

About 500 pounds of halibut yesterday, from sch. Etta Mildred, brought 14 1-2 and 10 1-2 cents per pound for white and gray.

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TODAY'S RECEIPTS.

Sch. John R. Bradley, Bay of Islands, N. F., 950 lbs frozen herring, 85 bbls. salt herring.

Sch. Elizabeth Silsbee, via Boston.
Sch. Georgianna, shore.
Sch. Minnerva, shore.
Sch. Buema, shore.
Sch. Dorothy, shore.
Sch. Athena, shore.
Sch. Evelyn L. Thompson, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, haddocking.
Sch. Margaret, halibuting.

Today's Fish Market.

Ground pollock, 55 cts per cwt.; gutted, 60 cents.

Salt George cod, large \$4.00, mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut 11 cts. per lb for white and 8 cts for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.

Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.75; mediums, \$1.37½.

Eastern cod, large \$1.75; medium \$1.37½; cusk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; haddock, 80 cts; hake, 75 cts; pollock, 70 cts.

Eastern deck handline cod, \$4.00 for large and \$3.00 for medium.

Boston.

Sch. Hope, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 2000 hake, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Robert and Arthur, 16,000 haddock, 20,000 cod, 3000 hake, 10,000 pollock.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, 36,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 6000 cusk, 1000 halibut.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, 32,000 haddock, 21,000 cod, 4000 hake, 4000 cusk, 500 halibut.

Sch. Morning Star, 55,000 haddock, 11,000 cod.

Sch. Catherine G. Burke, 55,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Terra Nova, 35,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 8000 hake.

Sch. Lillian, 45,000 haddock, 23,000 cod.

Sch. Mary Edith.

Haddock, \$1.35 to \$3.25 per cwt.; shore large cod, \$2 to \$2.50; short market cod, \$1.50 to \$2; pollock, \$2.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

The Nova Scotia Eva M. B. has arrived at Halifax, N. S., from Jorday Bay, Shelburne, with 450 barrels of herring.

The Nova Scotia sch. Eomynthruide was at Halifax Tuesday with 8000 pounds of fresh cod and haddock.

Sch. Arcadia was at North Sydney, C. B., Wednesday.

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Sch. Atlanta of this port, recently reported at Louisburg, C. B., had 6000 pounds of halibut on board.

Sch. John Hays Hammond was in command of Capt. Christopher Gibbs this trip, her regular skipper, Capt. Horace Wilde remaining ashore because of illness in his family.

Sch. Arcadia, of this port, bound home from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a cargo of salt and frozen herring, put in at North Sydney, C. B., to land her skipper, Capt. Lemuel Firth, who is ill. He will proceed home by train, while the vessel sailed for home in command of her mate, Daniel McPhee.

The straight Georges handline fleet is mostly hauled up this winter. All the Western bank cack handliners hauled up after their second trips, so the only hook and lines now out are schs. Hattie A. Trask, Senator Saulsbury and Cecil H. Low.

Sch. Florence E. Melonson has cleared from Port Gilbert, N. S., for this port, with a general cargo.

Sch. Metamora was at Liverpool, N. S., on Monday and cleared.

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Boston Receipts Light.

Arrivals at T wharf, Boston, are light this morning and the price on haddock is better than for some time, from \$2 to \$3.75 being paid by the dealers. Large cod hang at \$2.50. Yesterday afternoon schs. Richard Benj. F. Phillips and Francis J. O'Hara came in, but this morning schs. Rex and Lucania, both with good trips, had things to themselves.

Jan'y 8.

TEN DAYS MAY CLOSE SEASON.**Perhaps Earlier With Good Run of
Herring and Good Frost.****Letter From Birchy Cove, N. F.,
Gives Authentic Information.**

A letter to the Times received last night and dated at Birchy Cove, Bay of Islands, N. F., last Sunday, gives some interesting information of the doing of the herring fleet and conditions there and is the first word, beyond a few telegrams, received here from there since before Christmas. The letter is from a most reliable source and says:

"The herring season is nearly over and another ten days may force its end. If things come right, that is a good run of herring and good frost, it may end itself before that time. What will come though is a conjecture that no man, even though he be brought up in the business, can make and feel safe.

"There is a decidedly winterish appearance here at Birchy Cove, indeed over the whole bay. The Humber is frozen over as far as the eye can reach from here. The North and Middle Arms have little or no ice in them; at least such was the report yesterday, since when the weather has not been such as to make ice where the vessels are lying. The Humber always freezes over much earlier than the other Arms on account of the quantity of fresh water emptying into it.

"The latest reports from the north, brought by the steamer Home, is that there is no immediate danger of the gulf ice, provided the wind does not blow from north, north-northeast or northeast. The captain of the Home, with whom I talked on the subject, says that a strong wind from either of the quarters mentioned, would drive the ice south in such quantities as to interfere with navigation in three or four days. Three days ago the Home could not get any farther north than Port Saunders. There have been a great many rumors about the Gulf ice, but this is the first authentic report.

"My reason for not referring to the ice before, in my letters, is on account of the general unreliability of the reports, generally started by persons who have no interest in the herring fishery, but much interested in starting a story which will cause excitement. This report from the captain of the Home can be relied upon in every particular.

"At the present time it is difficult to hear from the Arms. It is only when the Fiona or some of the fishermen who are on their home come down that we hear what is taking place on the fishing ground. We get the departures and news in a general way, however, and can judge rightly here what the conditions are in the Arms.

"What few fish have been caught lately have been taken in the North Arm and according to a number of fishermen, who came down from there

today, to go home—their fishing season ended—there are eight of the American fleet there. Probably all the vessels that could get there, did so.

"The Nova Scotia vessels recently loaded are schs. Earl V. S., Ellen Maxner and Lila D. Young and Sam Shaw's vessel, I do not know her name but come to think of it, she belongs to Newfoundland and has her cargo sold to Halifax parties.

"The railroad may soon be blocked, as the snow is very deep and each day adds a few inches to it."

The following part of the latter was written last Monday:

"Saturday night there was considerable frost. Yesterday and last night the weather was mild and today it is very mild."

This morning the following sensational story appears in one of the Boston papers:

"About 20 boats mostly from Gloucester, are tied up in the ice in Birchy Cove, off the west coast of Newfoundland. It is doubtful if they will be free before March or April.

"The vessels are in Birchy Cove for their annual trip of frozen herring, but the catch has been small and the delay in sailing resulted in the trapping of nearly the whole fleet.

"The loss to the fish industry will be great unless the boats get free, for when the fish are brought here in the spring they will bring but small prices."

It is perhaps needless to state that no credence is placed in the report here, indeed telegrams from Bay of Islands yesterday indicate that there is less ice now there than there has been for some time.

The messages state that on Wednesday evening there was a heavy east southeast wind, accompanied by a regular downpour of rain. Thursday the weather was very mild and there was no ice in the Humber. Fair fishing was reported in Middle Arm and there were no reports from North Arm.

When there is no ice in the Humber, it is safe to say that there is no ice in any of the other Arms.

A dispatch which is giving the owners of vessels now at Bay of Islands some concern is one received last evening from the island of Anticosti, which said:

"Thermometer three degrees above zero. Field ice showing in North Channel."

This means that the big ice pack between the island and the Labrador coast which makes on the latter shore, is now in sight. It is this field of ice, which, when the wind is right, sweeps across the gulf, adding to itself on the way, and blocks the western Newfoundland coast.

Sch. Lottie G. Merchant is on the way home with a part load of salt herring.

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WEATHER WARM.**But Herring Fishing Fair at
Bay of Islands.**

According to latest reports, the Bay of Islands has been having about the same kind of weather that Gloucester has been having. A dispatch from there yesterday afternoon says that for the past 48 hours it had been very mild and on Tuesday a regular summer downpour, such as was had here on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, was experienced.

The dispatch also said that herring fishing was fair, but that frost was sadly lacking. Some few of the crafts were quite well along on their frozen herring cargoes and with one good night's frost, three vessels would about finish up loading. There was no report of any vessels having loaded and sailed lately.

A dispatch this noon from Forteau, Straits of Belle Isle, on the Newfoundland side, says: "Thick fog raising straits. Full calm."

This is taken to mean that the fog may be breaking up the ice somewhat, or that it may refer simply to atmospheric conditions and that there is no change in the ice situation since last report, when the strait was reported blocked.

The report today from East Point, island of Anticosti, says:

"No ice in sight; weather mild."

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Today's Receipts.
Sch. Lillian, via Boston, 15,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Appomattix, shore.
Sch. Pythian, shore.
Sch. Ethel B. Penney, shore.
Sch. Stranger, shore.
Sch. Fitz A. Oakes, shore.
Sch. Julietta, shore.
Sch. Reliance, shore.
Sch. Helen B. Thomas, shore.
Sch. Evelyn L. Thompson, shore.
Sch. Manomet, shore.
Sch. Washakie, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

Ground pollock, 55 cts per cwt.; gutted, 60 cents.
Salt George cod, large \$4.00, mediums, \$3.00.
Bank halibut 11 cts. per lb for white and 8 cts for gray.
Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.
Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.
Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.75; mediums, \$1.37½; Eastern cod, large \$1.75; medium \$1.37½; cusk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; haddock, 80 cts; hake, 75 cts; pollock, 70 cts.
Eastern deck handline cod, \$4.00 for large and \$3.00 for medium.

Boston.

Sch. Rex, 45,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Richard, 35,000 haddock, 5000 cod.
Sch. Lucania, 30,000 haddock, 25,000 cod.
Sch. Francis J. O'Hara, 30,000 haddock, 18,000 cod.
Sch. Benj. F. Phillips, 20,000 haddock, 15,000 cod.
Sch. Sadie M. Nunan, 4000 haddock, 1200 cod, 2500 hake.
Haddock \$2 to \$3.75 per cwt.; large cod, \$2.50; market cod, \$1.59 to \$2; hake, 75 cts to \$2.

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Fishing Fleet Movements.

Capt. Adelbert Nickerson of sch. Tacoma reports speaking sch. Cavalier on Quero bank recently. The latter craft afterward went to the eastward.

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HERRING REPORT.

More Favorable News Received from Bay of Islands.

Last night's news from the herring fleet at Bay of Islands, N. F., was considerably more encouraging than any for some time past. There is now a good frost and the fishing is reported good. Beside this three vessels are loaded, or finishing up loads of frozen herring and are expected to soon be on the way home.

With the frost reported good and herring running better it is fair to presume that all the vessels at the Bay for frozen herring got in a good day's work and should the frost and herring continue, will not take many days to load.

A dispatch to the Boston Fish Bureau names schs. Harry A. Nickerson, Fannie A. Smith and Lena and Maud as the vessels that have finished loading and ready to sail on the first chance.

The frost is what all the skippers have been anxiously awaiting for quite a spell and it is safe to say that all had their scaffolds full of herring, awaiting its advent.

MET HARD WEATHER.

Incoming Fishing Vessels Considerably Iced Up.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, Capt. Henry W. Curtis, which arrived yesterday afternoon with a small fresh fish fare, has been to the Cape Shore and Western bank and has been up against hard weather from the start, also finding fish scarce. The craft has been out quite a while.

All the off shore vessels arriving at Boston yesterday were considerably iced up and all reported rough weather all the way in from Western bank.

Sch. Rex, Capt. John Grady, was struck by one heavy sea, which swept across the deck, smashing several dories. In going up Boston harbor the craft grounded on the Lower Middle but was soon pulled clear by one of the Ross tugs.

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Maine's sardine pack for the season of 1908 fell short 22 per cent from the amount allotted by the Maine Mercantile Company, which is in control of 95 per cent of the business. This was said to be due to differences with the fishermen during the early part of the season.

Jan'y 9.

REPORT NOT YET VERIFIED.

Agreement With England Limited to Issues To Be Presented.

Premier Bond Tried To Keep Certain Matters From The Hague.

A Washington dispatch to one of the Boston papers recently was to the effect that Secretary Root and Ambassador Bryce had arrived at an understanding or agreement with regard to certain claims between this country and Great Britain, one of the more important of which was with reference to our rights on the treaty coast of Newfoundland under the treaty of 1818. The Times learns from the best of authority that the report of such an agreement has not yet been verified.

If it is true however, it simply means that an agreement has been reached with regard to the framing of issues to be presented to The Hague.

It appears that Premier Bond of Newfoundland has been endeavoring to have certain matters of gravest importance to this country left out when the matter of the Treaty of 1818, and the consequent troubles with his island are brought before The Hague, this coming spring, but notwithstanding his efforts, it is generally supposed that this agreement between Mr. Root and Ambassador Bryce includes these propositions.

Jan'y 9.

FLEET IN PORT.

No Fish Arrivals Here or at Boston Since Friday.

It does not very often happen that both Boston and this port are bare of arrivals at the same time, but such is the case today, there being no arrivals of vessels with fish at either port since yesterday afternoon.

As it is the last day of the week and T wharf dealers have been buying light all the week on account of poor trade they are not at all disturbed by reason of the temporary famine.

At this port, the dealers are not anxious for fish, in fact none are needed, except salt herring, haddock for smoking, or fresh halibut, so the clean slate today is causing no uneasiness, indeed it is rather more pleasing than otherwise.

Although it looks like a good fish day outside, the market boat fleet finds itself in port today, and some of the skippers are doing some tall chafing thereat.

The fleet was all in port yesterday and last evening's outlook promised anything but a fish day today, so the boats stayed in. Everything pointed to a cold east wind with snow squalls and no chance to set trawls, so they remained at the wharves and most of the crews went home. This morning it moderated, the sun came out bright and in place of the expected wind, a flat calm prevails, so calm that a vessel could not work out of the harbor. It is next to impossible to dope out the weather from one day to another this winter and the skippers are about tired of trying it.

No Fresh Herring Arrivals.

For the first time in many days there are no fresh herring here this morning. The weather looked bad last night, and as the boat men knew they could not get in over Ipswich bar, they did not go over today, so as to be back tomorrow morning.

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GOING INTO HADDOCK FISHING.

The brig sch. Elizabeth Silsbee, which hauled out yesterday on Burnham's railways, had her propeller taken off and will continue winter haddocking under sail power alone. Capt. John Lawrie remains in command.

MACKEREL NOTES.

The imports of new salt mackerel at Boston are 39,024 barrels against 20,983 barrels at this time last year.

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WITH GOOD TRIP.

Capt. Goodwin Sold Fare to Gloucester Fresh Fish Co.

Back to his first and best favorite, the Gloucester Fresh Fish Company came Capt. James D. Goodwin, in sch. Benjamin A. Smith, yesterday afternoon, with one of the finest fares of the whole winter season. The captain calls the weight 100,000 pounds; some of the crew say that 20,000 pounds can be safely added.

The vessel has been gone but a few days and struck fine fishing on Western Bank, having 90,000 pounds or more of haddock in the trip, and haddock are about the only fish in demand at present.

Capt. Goodwin has been running to Boston about all winter, but he evidently thinks pretty well of the Gloucester Fresh Fish Company, for he brings to Manager Livingstone his biggest and best trip of the season.

Jan'y 9.

TODAY'S RECEIPTS.

Sch. Benj. A. Smith, Western Bank, 100,000 lbs fresh fish.

Today's Fish Market.

Ground pollock, 55 cts per cwt.; gutted, 60 cents.
Salt George cod, large \$4.00, mediums, \$3.00.
Bank halibut 11 cts. per lb for white and 8 cts for gray.
Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.
Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.
Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.75; mediums, \$1.37½; Eastern cod, large \$1.75; medium \$1.37½; cusk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; haddock, 80 cts; hake, 75 cts; pollock, 70 cts.
Eastern deck handline cod, \$4.00 for large and \$3.00 for medium.

Boston.

No arrivals today.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Georgianna is fitting for winter haddocking under command of Capt. Nelson Thorburn.

Schs. Francis V. Silva, Mary C. Santos, Nettie Franklin, and one or two others of the Provincetown trawling fleet are practically ready to begin the season's work and will start on their first trip for the year within a few days.